

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1 1. (Canceled).
- 1 2. (Canceled).
- 1 3. (Previously Presented) A pallet comprising a deck, a plurality of legs
2 extending downwardly from said deck, said deck having raised and
3 recessed areas arranged in an alternating pattern relative to each other,
4 said raised areas lying in a substantially horizontal top plane, said
5 recessed areas being vertically spaced from said raised areas and lying
6 in a substantially horizontal bottom plane, an upstanding wall
7 interconnecting said raised and recessed areas; and a trench formed
8 centrally within and substantially spanning said deck, said trench having a
9 base that lies in said bottom plane, said raised and recessed areas being
10 formed on both sides of said trench.
- 1 4. (Original) The pallet of claim 3 further comprising a support column
2 extending upwardly from the base of said trench and being located
3 adjacent a to said recessed area located adjacent to said trench.
- 1 5. (Original) The pallet of claim 3 further comprising a spacer extending
2 upward from said base of said trench and having a top surface lying in
3 said top plane.
- 1 6. (Original) The pallet of claim 5, wherein said spacer extends across said
2 trench and is located adjacent recessed areas on both sides of said
3 trench and interconnected therewith at said upstanding wall.

- 1 7. (Original) The pallet of claim 3 further comprising a reinforcing fold at
2 each end of said trench formed in an outer wall of said deck.
- 1 8. (Previously Presented) The pallet of claim 3, wherein each of said raised
2 and recessed areas include a drainage hole positioned therein.
- 1 9. (Previously Presented) The pallet of claim 3, wherein said raised and
2 recessed areas have a polygonal form.
- 1 10. (Previously Presented) The pallet of claim 3, including three rows of three
2 legs that are aligned with each other and formed integrally with said deck,
3 said legs extending downward below said bottom plane and defining a
4 pair of gaps on either side of a center row of said legs and on either side
5 of a center column of said legs.
- 1 11. (Previously Presented) The pallet of claim 3, wherein said legs are hollow
2 having a leg base and an upstanding sidewall extending from said leg
3 base to said deck.
- 1 12. (Previously Presented) The pallet of claim 3, wherein said legs have an
2 open top at said deck, and wherein said sidewall of each said leg tapers
3 from said top inward toward said base defining a tapered recess.
- 1 13. (Original) The pallet of claim 11, wherein said upstanding sidewall of each
2 of said legs defines a plurality of folds adapted to resist buckling loads
3 placed on said deck.
- 1 14. (Original) The pallet of claim 13, wherein said folds include at least one
2 convex fold and at least one concave fold.
- 1 15. (Original) The pallet of claim 11, wherein said legs have a generally
2 rectangular profile and wherein said upstanding sidewall of each said leg

3 includes a plurality of reinforcing folds, wherein said folds include convex
4 folds formed at each corner of each said leg and spaced from each other
5 by at least one concave fold and wherein an additional convex fold is
6 formed along each long side of said leg between said convex folds
7 formed at said corners, wherein said additional convex fold is spaced
8 from said folds at said corners by at least one concave fold.

1 16. (Original) The pallet of claim 11, wherein said base of said legs includes a
2 drainage hole.

1 17. (Canceled).

1 18. (Previously Presented) The pallet of claim 3 further comprising a hold,
2 wherein said hold is an opening formed in said deck.

1 19. (Currently Amended) The pallet of claim 4 3, wherein said deck has an
2 outer wall formed about its periphery and a rim extending outwardly from
3 said deck beyond said outer wall.

1 20. (Canceled).

1 21. (Previously Presented) The pallet of claim 3, wherein the pallet is formed
2 as a unitary structure from a single billet of polymeric material.

1 22. (Canceled).

1 23. (Previously Presented) A pallet comprising a deck having a plurality of
2 raised and recessed areas, said raised areas lying in a substantially
3 horizontal top plane and said recessed areas lying in a substantially
4 horizontal bottom plane, said top and bottom planes being vertically
5 spaced from each other, wherein said raised and recessed areas include
6 substantially planer webs interconnected to each other by an upstanding

7 wall, said raised and recessed areas being arranged on said deck in an
8 alternating pattern, a centrally-formed trench formed centrally within said
9 deck and substantially spanning said deck, where said trench is formed
10 independently of said raised and recessed areas and has a base lying in
11 said bottom plane and an upstanding wall that extends upward from said
12 base to said top plane about the periphery of said trench, wherein both
13 raised and recessed areas lie adjacent to said trench; and a plurality of
14 legs extending downward from said deck below said bottom plane.

1 24. (Currently Amended) A pallet comprising a deck having a plurality of
2 raised and recessed areas, said raised areas lying in a substantially
3 horizontal top plane and said recessed areas lying in a substantially
4 horizontal bottom plane, said top and bottom planes being vertically
5 spaced from each other, wherein said raised and recessed areas include
6 webs lying respectively in said top and bottom planes and interconnected
7 to each other by an upstanding wall, said raised and recessed areas
8 being arranged on said deck in rows and columns and in an alternating
9 pattern, wherein said raised and recessed areas alternate with respect to
10 each other ~~in two directions~~ along both said rows and said columns.

1 25. (Canceled).

1 26. (Previously Presented) A pallet comprising a deck having a plurality of
2 raised and recessed areas, said raised areas lying in a substantially
3 horizontal top plane and said recessed areas lying in a substantially
4 horizontal plane, said top and bottom planes being vertically spaced from
5 each other, wherein said raised and recessed areas include planer webs
6 lying respectively in said top and bottom planes and interconnected to
7 each other by an upstanding wall, said raised and recessed areas being
8 arranged on said deck in an alternating pattern, wherein said raised and
9 recessed areas alternate with respect to each other; wherein said webs
10 have a substantially triangular shape.